

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application and subject to examination.

In the Office Action dated September 7, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 1-10 and 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nemoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,422,546 B1, hereinafter "Nemoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,406,010 to Yano et al. (hereinafter "Yano"). The Applicant hereby traverses the rejections, as follows.

Claim 1 recites, in part:

wherein operation of said active anti-vibration supporting device is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of the engine is detected...

Claim 11 recites, in part:

wherein the cylinder suspension of the engine is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of said active anti-vibration supporting device is detected...

In making the rejections, the Examiner admits that Nemoto fails to disclose operation of said active anti-vibration supporting device is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of the engine is detected, as recited in claim 1. The Examiner also admits that Nemoto fails to disclose the cylinder suspension of the engine is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of said active anti-vibration supporting device is detected, as recited in claim 11.

Yano is cited as allegedly curing the deficiencies that exist in Nemoto.

However, upon thorough review of the Yano reference, the Applicant is unable to find any support for the Examiner's allegation. Specifically, Yano neither discloses nor suggests operation of said active anti-vibration supporting device is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of the engine is detected, as recited in claim 1.

In addition, Yano neither discloses nor suggests the cylinder suspension of the engine is prohibited when an abnormality in an operational state of said active anti-vibration supporting device is detected, as recited in claim 11.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that claims 1 and 11 are allowable over the applied art of record. As claims 1 and 11 are allowable, the Applicant submits that claims 2-10, which depend from allowable claim 1, and claims 12-20, which depend from allowable claim 11, are similarly allowable over the applied art of record for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claims 1 and 11.

Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 patentability distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

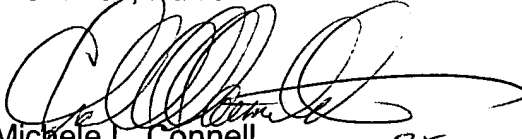
Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge

any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to
Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referencing docket no. 107348-00393.

Respectfully submitted,

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